



Town of Garrett Park
PO Box 84
4600 Waverly Avenue
Garrett Park, MD 20896

Regular Meeting of Town Council
Public Teleconference

Town Council Meeting: March 14, 2022

MINUTES

Call to Order (7:40 PM) – Mayor Kacky called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. Present on the call were Councilmembers Gerilee Bennett, Dona Dobosz, Mario Grande, Stephen Paczkowski, and Phil Schulp. Also on the call were Interim Town Manager Barb Matthews, Town Assistant Elizabeth Henley, and approximately seven attendees.

Approval of Agenda (7:41 PM) – The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes (7:42 PM) – The February 15, 2022 Town Council Meeting Minutes were amended to add the following sentence at the end of the Town Update on the American Rescue Plan: *“The Council agreed that the ARPA Task Force supporting the ARPA funding will conduct its business in accordance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act.”* The February 15, 2022, Town Council Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

The February 23, 2022 Budget Work Session Minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Presentation by Residents (7:51 PM) – None.

Action (7:51 PM)

- *Possible Use of Voting Technology for 2022 Town Election* – Town Manager Matthews shared information on the use of two voting technologies – an electronic voting machine and a scanner option. Following discussion of these options, Councilmember Schulp moved to authorize up to \$7,000 for the use of voting technology for the 2022 Town Election, with a preference for the scanning option. Councilmember Grande seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.
- *Montgomery County Sanitation Request for Increased Payment due to Escalated Diesel Fuel Prices* – Town Manager Matthews informed the Mayor and Town Council that Montgomery Sanitation (the Town’s provider of trash, recycling, and yard waste collection services) had requested a six-month, \$1,500 surcharge above the contractually established price in light of the escalated cost in diesel fuel prices. This equates to an approximate cost increase of 15%. Should diesel fuel costs decrease to \$3.60 per gallon, then the Town’s costs would return to the contracted amount. Following discussion, Councilmember Schulp moved to approve the requested surcharge in a tiered fashion up to \$1,500 per month for a not-to-exceed period of six months, retroactive to March 1, 2022. Councilmember Grande seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

- *Introduction of Ordinance No. 2022-2, FY 2023 Budget* – Town Manager Matthews provided an overview of the FY 2023 budget proposal. Real property and personal property tax rates will remain unchanged. Following discussion, Councilmember Dobosz moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2022-2 with the following amendments: (1) Increase Revenue Line Item 1.0 (Prior Year Carryover) from \$125,000 to \$140,000; (2) Include \$15,000 for a pilot compost subsidy program as an operating expense; (3) Increase the annual household assessment for trash, recycling, and yard waste services from \$345 to \$395 due to anticipated fuel surcharges; and, (4) Increase Revenue Line Item 4.0 (Municipal Refuse Collection) by \$18,050 as a result of the increased annual household assessment. Councilmember Bennett seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- *New Committee Appointments* – Mayor Kacky announced the following appointments to committees:

Committee	Member Name	Appointment End Date
Arboretum	Sean Conlan	March 2027
Arboretum	Malcom Russell-Einhorn	March 2026
Archives	Joe May	March 2027
Archives	Brian Mizoguchi	March 2026
Historic Preservation	Suzi Balamaci	November 2024
Historic Preservation	Eric Chapman	June 2024
Historic Preservation	Stan McLeod	January 2024
Historic Preservation	Brian Mizoguchi	March 2025
Historic Preservation	Nancy Walz	January 2025

Councilmember Grande moved to accept Mayor Kacky's appointments to these three committees. Councilmember Schulp seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- *Introduction of Ordinance No. 2022-3, Making Adjustments to the FY 2022 Reserve Accounts* – Town Manager Matthews provided an overview of Ordinance No. 2022-3. As directed by the Mayor and Town Council at the February 23, 2022 Budget Work Session, the Operating Reserve would be increased from \$175,000 to \$250,000 and the Yeandle Park Reserve would be increased from \$50,000 to \$75,000. Ordinance No. 2022-3 would also make adjustments to two other reserve accounts, specifically the Penn Place Tenants Security Deposits and Wynne Case Reimbursement. Councilmember Schulp moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2022-3, with the Town Manager to revise the final "whereas" clause to provide greater specificity as to the changes being made. Councilmember Bennett seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Town Updates (10:20 PM) – This agenda item was deferred due to the lateness of the hour.

Town Manager's Financial Report & Town Manager's Report (10:21 PM) – Town Manager Matthews summarized the February Financial Report and Town Manager Report. She noted that receipts from income taxes were down by approximately \$45,000 compared to the same time period in FY 2021 for unknown reasons. Town Manager Matthews informed the Mayor and Town Council that the County Council had approved a \$5.0 supplemental appropriation for FY 2022 municipal tax duplication payments; the Town will receive an additional \$44,206.

Mayor Kacky adjourned the meeting at 10:22 PM.



Signed

Barbara B. Matthews

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Clerk-Treasurer